

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By **VICE CHAIR JOHN (JACK) W. ROSS**, on March 7, 2005 at 3:15 P.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Dee L. Brown (R)  
Rep. Paul Clark (D)  
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)  
Rep. George Everett (R)  
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)  
Rep. Gail Gutsche (D)  
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Rick Maedje (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jim Peterson, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)

**Members Absent:** Rep. Christopher Harris, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)  
Rep. David Wanzenried (D)

**Staff Present:** Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 124, 3/2/2005; SB 212, 3/2/2005;  
SB 214, 3/2/2005

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON SB 124**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:00      **SEN. GLENN ROUSH (D), SD 8**, opened the hearing on **SB 124**, Interim bridge or gap financing for regional water systems.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:56      Clint Jacobs, Manager, Dry Prairie Rural Water System  
00:10:07      Steve Wade, North Central Regional Drinking Water Authority  
00:11:22      Gloria Mason, Administrator, Conservation District, Cut Bank and Montana Association of Conservation Districts  
00:12:18      John Tubbs, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:15:11      **REP. BROWN**  
00:17:21      **REP. DICKENSON**  
00:21:13      **REP. CLARK**  
00:24:06      **VICE CHAIR ROSS**

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:26:14      **SEN. GLENN ROUSH (D)** closed the hearing on **SB 124**.

**HEARING ON SB 212**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:27:01      **SEN. JOHN ESP (R), SD 31**, opened the hearing on **SB 212**, Revise allocation and distribution of federal mineral leasing funds.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:28:20      William Duffield, Executive Director, Montana Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties  
00:29:00      John Northey, Attorney, Legislative Audit Division

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

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**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:30:31 REP. JOPEK  
00:31:59 REP. GUTSCHE

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**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:33:34 SEN. JOHN ESP (R) closed the hearing on SB 212.

**HEARING ON SB 214**

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**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:35 SEN. KELLY GEBHARDT (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 214, Clarify law on damages for trespass to take timber.

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**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

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**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

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**Informational Testimony:** None.

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**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:37:06 REP. JOPEK  
00:37:38 REP. MAEDJE  
00:40:09 REP. CLARK  
00:41:40 VICE CHAIR ROSS

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**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:41:58 SEN. KELLY GEBHARDT (R) closed the hearing on SB 214.

00:42:29

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

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REP. JIM PETERSON, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

JP/dp

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([nah50aad0.PDF](#))**